

after the votes occur on suspensions, but there will be no votes on the wetlands debate Monday evening and we will move to the continuation of this bill Tuesday morning, with an objective of finishing this legislation by Tuesday night.

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania) having assumed the chair, Mr. MCINNIS, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 961) to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, had come to no resolution thereon.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. GEPHARDT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY] for the purpose of discussing the schedule for next week.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 15, the House will meet at 12 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider three bills under suspension of the rules: a resolution expressing the sense of the House that Japan should immediately eliminate barriers to United States exports on autos and auto parts.

Mr. Speaker, let me just mention with respect to this bill, out of consideration for the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], it is possible that this may not be considered until Tuesday. We will see if we can work that out.

We will continue then on Monday with H.R. 1045, legislation eliminating the National Education Standards and Improvement Council, and H.R. 1266, the Greens Creek Land Exchange Act of 1995.

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We then plan to take up the rules for three hatchery bills: H.R. 614, the New London National Fish Hatchery Conveyance; H.R. 584, the Fairport National Fish Hatchery Conveyance; and H.R. 535, the Corning National Fish Hatchery conveyance.

Mr. Speaker, if any recorded votes are ordered, they will not take place before 5 p.m. on Monday evening.

We then plan to return to debate on amendments to H.R. 961, the Clean Water Amendments Act of 1995.

On Tuesday the House will meet at 10 a.m. to consider one bill under suspension of the rules.

Mr. Speaker, that bill is H.R. 1590, legislation requiring the trustees of the Medicare trust fund to report recommendations on resolving the projected financial insolvency of the trust funds.

We then plan to continue consideration of amendments for the clean water legislation.

Mr. Speaker, it is our hope and our intention that we will be able to complete the clean water legislation on Tuesday, and we will continue working between the majority and minority floor managers with those people who have amendments to see what arrangements we can make to assure completion within that timeframe and still give it as much consideration as possible to the Members. But it is our hope and I think with some confidence I can say our intention to complete the bill in that time.

That will make it possible, Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday for the House to meet at 10 a.m. and consider the three hatchery bills made in order under the rules adopted on Monday. We will then begin general debate on the fiscal year 1996 budget resolution. Members should be advised that the House may work late on Wednesday evening.

On Thursday the House will meet at 9 a.m. We plan to recess immediately to honor former Members of Congress, and then reconvene at 10 a.m. to return to debate and consideration of substitutes to the committee-passed fiscal year 1996 budget resolution.

It is our hope to have Members on their way home to their families and their districts by approximately 6:30 p.m. on Thursday night.

There will be no votes on Friday, May 19.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. GEPHARDT. I would like to ask the distinguished majority leader a couple of questions. First, do you expect votes on Monday night on clean water amendments?

Mr. ARMEY. No. We can have some of the debate, but we expect no votes on the Clean Water Act on Monday night.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Second, I would like to ask if we could reserve the time between say 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday for special orders, instead of recessing.

Mr. ARMEY. I do not believe we can make this agreement at this point because we have suspensions we must look at.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Finally, in looking at the schedule, it appears that we are talking about a 4-hour period for debate on the budget. And I must say to the distinguished majority leader that there is a lot of desire I am sure on both sides of the aisle to adequately debate this very important budget, and the changes that are being proposed by many Members in the budget, and I would like to ask if we could perhaps see more time for debate in this period that you have set out.

Mr. ARMEY. I do appreciate the gentleman's point. The Committee on Rules has not issued a rule on debate for the budget, and I am sorry I cannot report on how much time will be made available, and I know there are discussions taking place on that.

Mr. GEPHARDT. I would just say to the gentleman that we had been hoping for more like 14 hours of general debate. This is a very important document for the future of the country, and people deserve to know exactly what the alternatives are and how they would work and allow for adequate debate, so I urge the Committee on Rules to take that under consideration. I know these hatchery bills are probably important somewhere, but probably more important and especially to a bass fisherman of such renown as the majority leader, but maybe we could get to the budget a little faster and have more time to use.

Mr. ARMEY. Again let me say I do appreciate that. It is a point perhaps you want to communicate to the Committee on Rules, and I would certainly be willing to do the same. This is a very important piece of legislation. I know those members of the Joint Economic Committee that generally conduct what is known as the Humphrey-Hawkins debate have expressed their concern, and we will continue to encourage the Committee on Rules.

Mr. GEPHARDT. I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. TAUZIN. I thank the minority leader for yielding. I suppose the question I want to ask is in terms of Monday night's treatment of the current bill we are on, the Clean Water Act, I understand there will be no votes Monday night, but will there be debate on amendments, and how long will we go Monday night, do you expect?

Mr. ARMEY. Again I thank the gentleman. The debate that we have Monday night will be on the Boehlert amendments. We would probably, possibly debate for as much as an hour or an hour and one-half. One of the things we are going to be very sensitive to is there be some time retained so that there will be closing comments made before the vote is taken on the next day.

Any Members that wish to participate in that debate on the Boehlert amendment should be advised, though, that their best opportunity to do so would be Monday evening, because we do have a real resolve to complete the bill on Tuesday, and, therefore, between the floor managers there may be a need to do some time arrangements for Tuesday. So if you are anxious to be a part of that debate relative to wetlands that is known as the Boehlert amendment, I would encourage you to be here Monday night.

Mr. GEPHARDT. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. MINETA. I thank the leader for yielding. I was just going to ask relative to the debate, then we would still